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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

SUBJECT Air Force POL Stores near
Hermanuy Mestec

DATE DISTR. 11 October 1956

NO. PAGES 2

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

1. In 1949 a survey of the area south of Hermanuv Mestec (N 49-57, E 15-40) was carried out. The survey centered on the neighborhood of trigonometric point 439 near Kostelec (N 49-56, E 15-39). A few months later this area was closed to the public, a wooden camp was built, and a fairly large unit belonging to an unidentified technical battalion (TP) began to level the ground. Civilian workers were also employed on the construction, but they had to be screened for political reliability prior to their employment. The construction was carried out by Konstruktiva, National Building Enterprise, Pardubice and Chrudim branches. The blasting of the underground storage space was performed by the Baraba firm from Prague. The underground chambers, which are in weathered layers of slate (popularly known as "modrak"), had to be reinforced by ferroconcrete, since the slate kept falling in. The construction was finished approximately at the beginning of 1955, but some work is still going on in the area.
2. Since May 1955 there has been an Air Force unit at the site, and railroad tank cars have been constantly arriving at the newly built railroad station in Kostelec. The unit numbers about 200 men.
3. The underground chambers which were built in the slate rock contain large tanks about 30 meters in diameter. The tanks are welded together from metal plates which were brought in 1954. The tanks are connected by a railroad spur which branches off from the extended railroad station adjoining the northern part of the store; it enters the underground storage area through a tunnel which is in the southern part. The depot has at its disposal about 30-35 railroad tank cars belonging to the Pardubice oil refinery. The depot apparently serves airfields at Pardubice, Caslav, and Chrudim and is also used as an oil store for products of the Pardubice mineral oil refinery.
4. There is another similar store administered by an Air Force detachment. This store is located in the area of Jedlina Hill (401 meters) near Holicky, about two kilometers from the Kostelec store.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#.")

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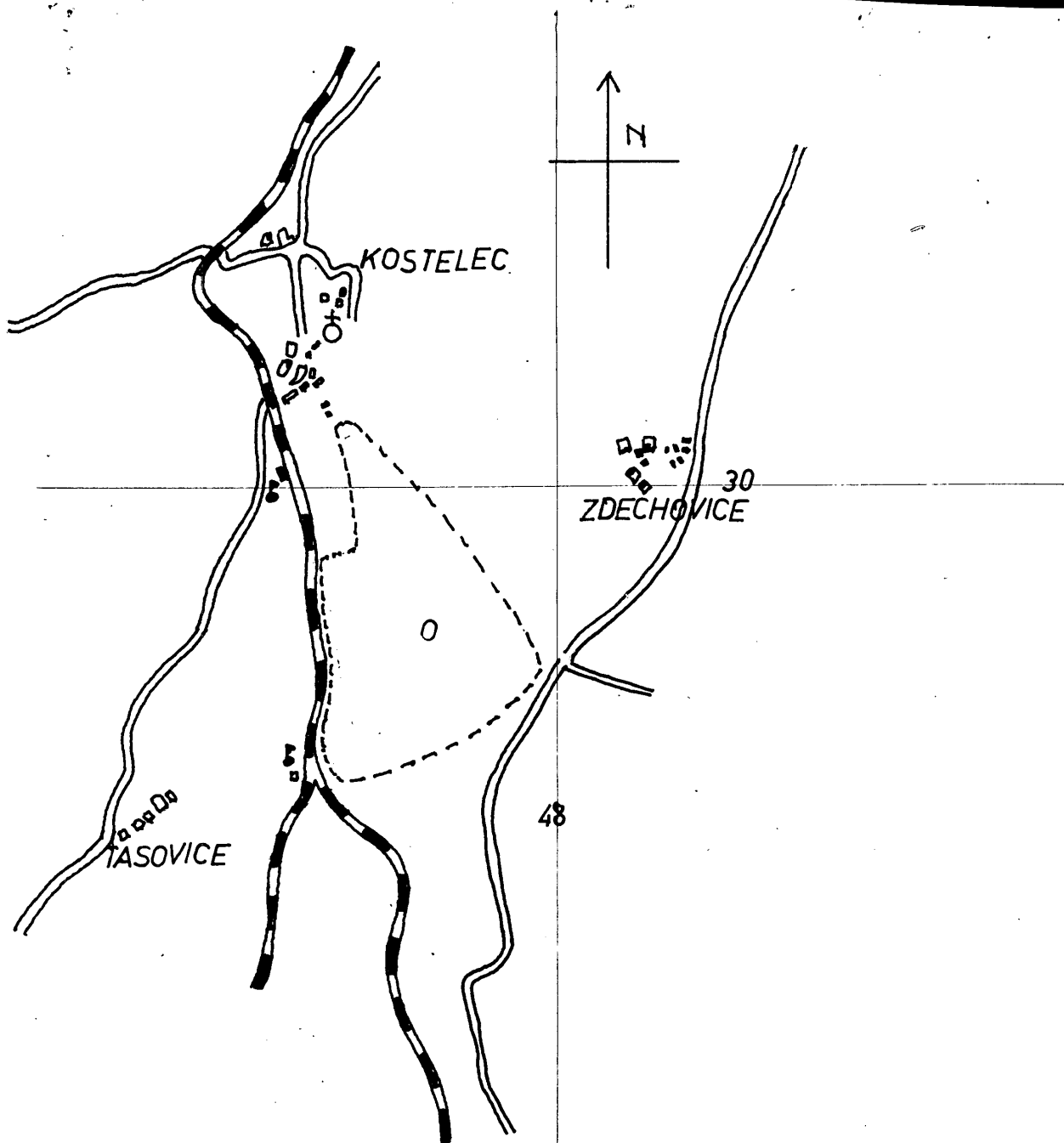
5.  map sketch showing the location of the POL store near Kostelec. 25X1

 Attachment (1 map sketch):

25X1

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